

# STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

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Ohio Department of Transportation  
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Columbus, Ohio 43215

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## TO PROMOTE AND GUIDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COORDINATED, COMPREHENSIVE AND EFFECTIVE GROUND WATER PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE STATE OF OHIO

July 25, 2006  
Horace Collins Laboratory  
Delaware, Ohio

### **ABSTRACT**

The July 2006 meeting consisted of Agency announcements and a presentation by Ralph Haefner and Mike Hallfrisch on techniques for studying ground water/surface water interactions, and some potential study sites in Ohio.

### **ATTENDANCE**

OEPA: Tom Allen, Michael Eggert, Barb Lubberger  
ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, Greg Nageotte, Rick Pavey  
ODH: Rebecca Fugitt  
ODA: Bill Goodman  
ODOT: Doug App  
PUCO: Sue Daly  
NRCS: John Armentano  
USGS: Ralph Haefner

### **REVISIONS of MAY DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY**

For the ODH report, Rebecca requested that the term "Home Sewage Disposal Rules" be revised to "Sewage Treatment Rules".

### **AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### ***Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Michael Eggert announced:-***

- U.S. EPA, Office of Water, is pushing a federal initiative to coordinate inspections of BUSTR sites with each state's SWAP program. In Ohio, SWAP program staff will provide maps of source water protection areas to BUSTR staff prior to an inspection.

- The investigation of water quality impacts at Batdorf Road (Wayne County) is finishing up. Phase I and II sampling is complete. The sampling was coordinated with ODNR, ODH and USGS and included testing for optical brighteners. The report should be ready by the end of September.

- The division is finalizing the 2006 Ground Water Quality report, with plans to post it on the Web by the end of August. It includes a summary of the South Bass Island incident in 2005 and a summary of the C-8 concerns in the Little Hocking Wellfield.

- Kristy Hunt has created Web pages for Project SWEET, and they can be accessed through the DDAGW/SWAP Web site. The direct link is:  
<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw/SWEET/index.htm>

- Some public water systems around Buckeye Lake have chronic total coliform-positive samples, which may be related to well biofouling by iron bacteria, or may indicate ground water contamination. The division is looking at the data more closely to decide whether it warrants an investigation.

***Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Sue Daly announced:***

- Valerie Lemmie has been appointed as PUCO's newest commissioner. Commissioner Lemmie will be PUCO's representative to the Executive Board of the Ohio Water Resources Council, replacing former Commissioner Clarence Rogers.

***Natural Resources Conservation Service, John Armentano announced:***

- NRCS has been reorganized again. John distributed a new organization chart dated June 2006.

***United States Geological Survey, Ohio Water Science Center, Ralph Haefner announced:***

- As part of the Tuscarawas River Basin project, four public water systems using ground water were sampled for an extensive list of parameters, including "wastewater parameters" and age-dating compounds. The four systems were Freeport, Dover, Wadsworth and Bolivar. Surface water samples also will be collected and analyzed once water levels drop to base flow levels.

- Due to the high level of interest in sampling techniques for some of the newer parameters, USGS will invite other ground water agency staff to observe sampling at the City of Columbus' Parsons Avenue wellfield in late August.

***Ohio Department of Transportation, Doug App announced:***

- His section is busy preparing for rules being developed by the Feds in response to the latest transport bill passed in August 2005 (known as SAFETEA-LU: Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users). In addition to allocating resources to specific regions and transportation projects, the bill created a new environmental review process for environmental impact statements. Among ODOT's concerns: entities responsible for long-range transportation plans must consult with potential "resource providers" (which may include some SCCGW member agencies) *before* completing their plans. This is a significant change of procedure, and ODOT is working to make sure these entities are prepared to incorporate any new procedures.

***Department of Natural Resources, Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Greg Nageotte announced:***

- Ohio's revised Nonpoint Source Plan is reportedly on the verge of approval by U.S. EPA. Once approval is received, the document will be updated to reflect changes that have occurred in the last year or so, and restore Web links that no longer work.

- The Division's grants coordinator, Jan Voelker, will retire at the end of the week.

- For the 2006 Watershed Coordinator grants, 29 applications were received. Four were pre-screened out, and another four were declined after review. A total of 13 applications have been renewed and seven new coordinators have been selected. The new contracts will start in January 2007.

- Rainwater, land use and storm water standards are out for public comment through the end of July, and are accessible online through the Division's website. Contact is John Mathews.

***Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, Mike Hallfrisch announced:***

- The Office of Information Technology is developing the capability to do various types of searches on the well log database.

***Ohio Department of Agriculture, Bill Goodman announced:***

- The emerald ash borer has been found in Franklin County. ODA is constructing quarantine zones around areas where it has been located, but has ceased cutting down trees.

***Ohio Department of Health, Rebecca Fugitt announced:***

- ODH has completed its response to 12 issues raised by various parties affected by the new Sewage Treatment Rules. They will meet with the Coalition on Thursday and if it agrees with the responses, the rules will be modified accordingly. The new rules are scheduled to go into effect January 1, 2007.

- ODH is partnering with OTCO to provide State competency tests for sewage treatment and septage haulers. The first round of these tests will be offered November 2006 - February 2007. ODH designed the test, but OTCO will maintain the lists of individuals who take and pass the test.

- In September the Technical Advisory Committee will complete a guidance on evaluating alternative technology.

***Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geological Survey, Rick Pavey announced:***

- ODNR is in the midst of another two-year buyout, and five more Division geologists are planning to retire, including Chief Tom Berg. Dennis Hull is leaving at the end of the week, and the other four staff will retire by the end of August.

- The Ashtabula/Youngstown surficial deposits map will be complete by the end of August.

**Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Tom Allen announced:**

- The Education Workgroup for the Water Resources Council has not yet received a commitment from Channels 4 or 10 to contract with Storm Center, but Channel 10 is showing the most interest. The hope is to have an agreement by mid-August, and launch the educational segments in September, when schools start up again. The Workgroup is putting together Ohio watershed maps and reviewing a draft for a Web site from Storm Center.

**PRESENTATION**

Ralph Haefner distributed a write-up entitled “Direct and Indirect Measurement of Surface-Water/Ground Water Interactions: A Brief Primer on Methods and References”, and summarized it for the group. The primer touched on direct measurements such as potentiometric surface maps, flow nets, seepage measurements, gain/loss studies, and water budget methods, as well as indirect measurements such as measuring temperature/specific conductance, ground-water flow models, baseflow recession, surface-water flow models and geochemical methods. Ralph emphasized that the primary message is, multiple types of studies are needed, because each study gives you only a piece of the puzzle.

Ralph distributed some overviews of this topic, which are available as pdfs on the USGS Web site:

- “Using Temperature to Study Stream-Ground Water Exchanges”, Fact Sheet 2004-3010, February 2004.
- “Sustainability of Ground-Water Resources”, USGS Circular 1186, Allen, Reilly and Franke, 1999.
- Ground Water and Surface Water: A Single Resource”, USGS Circular 1139, Winter et al., reprinted 2002.

Mike Hallfrisch listed four potential projects for measuring ground water/surface water interactions, which were proposed to the Ohio Water Resources Council recently for funding:

- 1) creating a synoptic potentiometric surface map for the Big Darby watershed.
- 2) conducting a gain-loss study for the Big Darby
- 3) conducting a thermal study of the Big Darby
- 4) conducting a ground water prototype study at the Chippewa Creek Aquifer, to determine the sustainable yield of the aquifer.

**NEXT SCCGW MEETING:**

October 19<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 - 11:30 am at USGS,

**REMINDER: The link to the SCCGW Web page is:**

<http://www.ohiosccgw.org/>